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REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS

thirty-six pages of tables. The work of the Juvenile Probation Officers is disposed of in three and one-half pages of report and two statistical tables. As very little is said concerning methods of administration, and as the treatment of each subject is exceedingly brief, this report is of little value to probation officers from other states.

Chicago.

JOEL D. HUNTER.

STERILISATION UND KASTRATION ALS HILFSMITTEL IM KAMPFE GEGEN DAS VERBRECHEN. Von *Dr. Friedr. Ludw. Gerngross*. J. F. Lehmann's Verlag, Munchen, 1913, pp. 39 M, 1.20.

The idea that society has a right to and should protect itself against its anti-social members, so warmly agitated at the present time, is by no means a new one.

Already in the ancient Greek and Roman states there was a recognition of this principle, but we of today shudder at the mere mention of the methods used by the ancients. The next step in our efforts to deal with this problem was the enactment of laws forbidding the unfit to marry. Some of our own states were among the first to enact such laws, but it was soon discovered that while these laws were absolutely correct in principle, they were entirely useless in practice. Prevention of marriage does not in the least assure prevention of propagation. Especially is this true among the classes under consideration here. With them restriction of marriage means in most instances an increase in illegitimacy.

Asexualization of the unfit is the present-day battle cry in all quarters, and it is with the legal phases of these preventive measures that the author, whose pamphlet of some forty pages is before us, concerns himself. Gerngross, a jurist, commits himself unqualifiedly for sterilization as a means of prevention of crime, and it is indeed gratifying to the medical profession to see so much interest in this purely medical subject on the part of their legal brethren. For the very interesting discussion of the legal phases of this problem, we will have to refer the reader to the original, as it lends itself but very poorly to brief abstraction.

BERNARD GLUECK, M. D.

Government Hospital for the Insane.

DIE RASSENHYGIENE IN DEN VEREINIGTEN STAATEN VON NORD AMERIKA. Von *Geza Von Hoffman*. J. F. Lehmann's Verlag, Munchen, 1913, pp. 250, M 4.

There was a time when the mere suggestion of the possibility of America teaching Europe anything in the biologic sciences would have provoked a good deal of doubt; and it is indeed very gratifying to see that the unexpected has happened.

In the volume before us, we see an attempt by a European to bring before his countrymen in their own language a critical summary of the activities in the United States in the field of Eugenics or Race-culture.

The author particularly emphasizes the practical, the every-day